

# TRAFFIC FACTS

**HOT SHEET – DECEMBER 22, 2008**

Sadly, the number of traffic crash fatalities is creeping up. To date there have been 119, compared to 118 at this same time last year. The good news is that alcohol-related fatalities remain down significantly, by 11 percentage points, and speed-related fatal crashes remain down as well, by 7 percentage points. Further good news is that motorcycle fatalities have dropped slightly to 13%, which is one percentage point less than this time last year.

Thanks to our law enforcement partners for their hard work over the past week. Overtime enforcement included four sobriety checkpoints and 40 roving DUI patrols. Efforts this week bring the Safe Family Holiday enforcement result totals to 154 DUI arrests, 164 seat belt citations, 219 speed citations, and more than 1150 other arrests, including 88 drug arrests, and 28 apprehended fugitives. A stolen vehicle was recovered on Friday night as the result of DUI checkpoint in Newark, and Laurel PD made one traffic stop that resulted in 42 drug charges!

As members of law enforcement, you have the ability to make a significant difference! Be vigilant when enforcing Delaware's speed limits and other aggressive driving laws, and sign up to work overtime DUI patrols or sobriety checkpoints. The time you take to write a ticket could slow someone down or get them off the road when they are the most dangerous. Everything you do has the potential to save a life.

Together, we can stay focused and vigilant in an effort to move crash fatality trends in the right direction. Never forget, you're a role model in your community. The public is always watching, so be sure to obey the same laws you enforce. Encourage others to follow your example.